

We claim:

1. Compositions comprising:  
  
one or more carbohydrates in an amount effective for preserving tight cell junctions.
2. The compositions of claim 1 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.
3. The compositions of claim 1 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of agar, agarose, guar gum, hydroxypropylguar, hydroxypropylmethylguar, hydroxyethylguar, carboxymethylguar, gum arabic, dextran, locust bean, alginates, asafetida, gum benzoin, carrageenans, carob, colophony, galbanum, gum damar, gum cassia, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, gum chicle, gum elemi, gum gamboge, gum rosin, gum sandarac, gum

tara, gum terpine, gum tragacanth, xanthan gum, gum yucca, pectin, gellan gum, hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, gum ghatti, gum guaiac, gum guaiac, gum guarana, gum guttae, gum karaya, gum konjac, gum mastix, gum myrrh and gum olibanum.

4. A method of producing compositions of claim 1 comprising:  
combining one or more carbohydrates in an amount effective for preserving tight cell junctions.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.
6. The method of claim 4 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of agar, agarose, guar gum, hydroxypropylguar, hydroxypropylmethylguar, hydroxyethylguar, carboxymethylguar, gum arabic, dextran, locust bean, alginates, asafetida, gum benzoin, carrageenans, carob, colophony, galbanum, gum damar, gum cassia, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose,

hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, gum chicle, gum elemi, gum gambodge, gum rosin, gum sandarac, gum tara, gum turpentine, gum tragacanth, xanthan gum, gum yucca, pectin, gellan gum, hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, gum ghatti, gum guaiac, gum guaiac, gum guarana, gum guttae, gum karaya, gum konjac, gum mastix, gum myrrh and gum olibanum.

7. A solution, suspension, gel or ointment comprising one or more carbohydrates in an amount effective for preserving tight cell junctions.
8. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said solution, suspension, gel or ointment includes one or more buffers or buffering systems.
9. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said solution, suspension, gel or ointment includes one or more tonicity agents.
10. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.

11. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said one or more carbohydrates are selected from the group consisting of agar, agarose, guar gum, hydroxypropylguar, hydroxypropylmethylguar, hydroxyethylguar, carboxymethylguar, gum arabic, dextran, locust bean, alginates, asafetida, gum benzoin, carrageenans, carob, colophony, galbanum, gum damar, gum cassia, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, gum chicle, gum elemi, gum gamboge, gum rosin, gum sandarac, gum tara, gum turpentine, gum tragacanth, xanthan gum, gum yucca, pectin, gellan gum, hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, gum ghatti, gum guaiac, gum guarana, gum guttae, gum karaya, gum konjac, gum mastix, gum myrrh and gum olibanum.
12. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said solution, suspension, gel or ointment includes one or more surfactants.
13. The solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 wherein said solution, suspension, gel or ointment includes one or more viscosity agents.

14. A method of using the solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 comprising:
- contacting a surface of a contact lens with said solution, suspension, gel or ointment for a period of time prior to placement in an eye.
15. A method of using the solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 comprising:
- contacting a surface of a medical device with said solution, suspension, gel or ointment for a period of time prior to contacting tissue with said medical device.
16. A method of using the solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 comprising:
- contacting tissue with said solution, suspension, gel or ointment.
17. A method of producing the solution, suspension, gel or ointment of claim 7 comprising:
- adding an effective amount of one or more carbohydrates to said solution, suspension, gel or ointment.

18. A lens care solution comprising:
- one or more carbohydrates in solution in an amount effective to prevent the loss of tight cell junctions.